REMARKS

The Specification has been amended to provide a cross-reference to the previously filed Foreign Application.

Entry of the above amendments is respectfully requested. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By _____
Gerald M. Murphy, Jr., #28,977

GMM/smt

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000